

PROCLAMATION

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

The Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States of America have signified their desire that a day may be recommended to the people, to be set apart and observed as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer, in the language following, to wit:

Reverently recognizing the Providence of God in the affairs of man, and gratefully remembering the guidance, support and deliverance granted to our Patriot Fathers in the memorable war which resulted in the Independence of the American Colonies; and now responding in Him our supreme confidence and hope in the present struggle for Civil and Religious Freedom, and for the right to live under a Government of our own choice, and deeply impressed with the conviction that without Him nothing is strong, nothing wise and nothing enduring; in order that the people of this Confederacy may have the opportunity at the same time, of offering their adoration to the great Sovereign of the Universe, of penitently confessing their sins and strengthening their vows and purposes of amendment in humble reliance upon His Gracious and Almighty power:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do resolve, That it be recommended to the people of these States, that FRIDAY, the 8th day of April next, be set apart and observed as a day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, that Almighty God would so preside over our public councils and authorities; that He would inspire our armies and their leaders with wisdom, courage and perseverance; and so manifest Himself in the greatness of His goodness and majesty of His power, that we may be safely and successfully led through the chastening to which we are being subjected, to the attainment of an honorable peace; so that while we enjoy the blessings of a free and happy Government, we may ascribe to Him the honor and the glory of our independence and prosperity.

A recommendation so congenial to the feelings of the people will receive their hearty concurrence; and it is a grateful duty to the Executive to unite with their representatives in inviting them to meet in the Courts of the Most High. Recent events awaken fresh gratitude to the Supreme Ruler of nations. Our enemies have suffered repeated defeats, and a nefarious scheme to burn and plunder our Capital, and to destroy our civil Government by putting to death the chosen servants of the people, has been baffled and set at naught. Our armies have been strengthened; our finances promise rapid progress to a satisfactory condition; and our whole country is animated with a hopeful spirit and a fixed determination to achieve independence.

In these circumstances it becomes us, with thankful hearts, to bow ourselves before the throne of the Most High, and while gratefully acknowledging so many mercies, confess that our sins as a people have justly exposed us to His chastisement. Let us recognize the sufferings which we have been called upon to endure, administered by a fatherly hand for our improvement, and, with resolute courage and patient endurance, let us wait on Him for our deliverance.

In furtherance of these objects, now, therefore, I, JEFFERSON DAVIS, President of the Confederate States of America, do here by this my Proclamation, calling upon the people of the said States, in conformity with the desire expressed by their representatives, to set apart FRIDAY, the 8th day of April, as a day of HUMILIATION, FASTING and PRAYER, and I do hereby invite them on that day to repair to their several places of public worship and beseech Almighty God "to preside over our public councils, and so inspire our armies and leaders with wisdom, courage and perseverance; and so to manifest Himself in the greatness of His goodness, and in the majesty of His power, that we may secure the blessings of an honorable peace, and of free government; and that we, as a people, may ascribe all to the Honor and Glory of His name."

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Confederate States of America, at the city of Richmond, on this Twelfth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

By the President: J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

THE SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN WAR.—From Schleswig Holstein we learn that the Danes had lost and regained the village of Duppel. England had proposed a conference of settlement to meet in London. This was accepted by Austria and Prussia, but hostilities are not to cease during the sittings. The occupation of Jutland had been explained by the Austrian and Prussian Ambassadors to be merely for strategic purposes. France and Russia, it is said, support the idea of a conference. The London Times, of the latest date, considers the crisis as very serious, notwithstanding, and says that the spring of 1864 may see revolution prevailing over Germany, and its close witness the annihilation of the kingdom of Denmark.

OUR FUTURE.

We are hopeful for the future of our country. If the whole population of the North, like that of the South, could be brought into this struggle with the advantages of the navy and their immense material resources, the struggle would be long and desperate. Such, however, is not the case. At the beginning the armies were recruited from emigrants.—That source of supply has been materially diminished by recourse to measures which cannot with propriety, be made public. The next movement was with negroes. And perhaps nothing could have more clearly proved their want of confidence in their own people. Whatever theories may be entertained in regard to the effect of discipline in overcoming natural impediments in the material for soldiers, there is no precedent for a well drilled army of fighting men composed of the African race. The Yankees know this, and have heretofore employed them chiefly in guarding prisoners, commissary depots, etc. Sometimes, as at Wagner, they used them as breastworks to protect their own precious persons. At the late battle in Florida they tried them as reserves—the position assigned usually to the steadiest troops. This fact shows how hard put to it they are becoming to supply men for the vast plans upon which they have embarked. Their own account shows how the negroes fled like frightened sheep. And such is what we are to expect from 30,000 or 40,000 of their boasted army, if they tell the truth in putting down their negroes at that number. We see that the draft ordered for the 10th of March has been indefinitely postponed. No reason has, as yet, been assigned. The telegraph informs us that serious collisions have taken place between the people and the troops in Southern Illinois, and that similar demonstrations are apprehended in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and other places. Gold has lately gone as high as 169, and the supply which Mr. Chase throws on the market, when it gets inconveniently high for the Gascons, is probably exhausted—so that hereafter it may take its free course according to the law of demand and supply. The Presidential election approaches and symptoms of rupture among the Black Republicans are showing themselves, while the Democrats are becoming restive in being kept so long from government plunder. The Northern people are in the situation of the horse in the fable, which employed the aid of man to mount on his back for the purpose of driving the stag from his share of the pasture. The Democrats lent their aid to the Black Republican Government to rob and plunder us, and it has resulted in their being subdued. The North is as much under the heel of military power as France. But in the struggles of the Republicans for the spoils, the Democrats, (or as the Northern people with characteristic decency, style their neighbors and fellow-citizens,) the Copperheads, have some prospect of a return to power. Every body knows the heat and vulgarity of a Presidential election in the United States, even before the elements of bitterness were introduced which the war has engendered. What must it be when hate has been intensified—by the loss of power on the one hand, and the abuse of it on the other to purposes of oppression, disfranchisement and cruelty.

While this state of things exists at the North—while the cohesion which a race for plundering has produced is likely to be broken up, and disintegration to follow, as among robbers, the division of the spoils is the time for quarrels, it is scarcely to be expected that the heart and mind of the people can be kept to the work and business of the war. The fate of the Black Republicans depends on the issue of the spring campaign, and its opening has inflicted upon them already a heavy blow. If it can be followed, as we believe it will be, their overthrow will be almost certain. Then comes the question, what will the South gain if the Democrats succeed to power? Nothing because they are Democrats—much because there will be a change of party. Perhaps the same result would be attained by any other successor to Lincoln, even from his own set. Notwithstanding their daily boasts, they know the war is a failure. The party in power persist as men always do who are unwilling to acknowledge error. But with any change of men there will be a change of policy. We have no hope of any party at the North as a voluntary peace party; but we do expect that the successes of our arms for the next few months will overthrow the Lincoln dynasty, and compel peace from his successors.

There is another great principle involved in this struggle, which must control its issue. It is the union of the South in its struggle for life. Even the northern press, whose optics are so wonderful as to see that the "rebellion is nearly crushed," by their own admission, can see no symptoms of our giving up. The North is fighting for her colonies, as she regards us. Great Britain tried a similar experiment. The mountaineers of Circassia have shown for a quarter of a century what men can do when fighting for family and home. Is the South less tenacious?

When we look abroad we find matters becoming very interesting. However much we may discredit recognition rumors, the debates in the British Parliament and the tone of the British press indicate the near approach of a

ministerial crisis. The friendship of the incoming ministry of Lord Derby for us is believed to be as decided as the hatred of that about to go out. There will probably then be concert of action with Napoleon, even if he should not act before on his own responsibility.

From all these indications we are led to believe that the year 1864 will be the most eventful of the war to the Confederacy. We cannot undertake to predict that it will witness its close, but we hope and trust that it may.

Guardian.

THE CONFEDERATE NAVY.—EXPLOITS OF THE ALABAMA.—It was stated, not long since, that the Alabama was blockaded in the port of Amoy, China. This was not correct, and it appears by our latest foreign news that the Alabama never was further eastward than Singapore, in the straits of Malacca. From there she sailed on the 24th of December, having taken on board three hundred tons of coal, and the same day fell in with the bark Texan Star, otherwise called the Martabag, from Maulmain, Burmah, for Singapore, with a cargo of rice. The particulars of the destruction of this vessel are known. The ship kept on her course up the Straits and two days later burned the ships Sonora and Highlander, both at anchor off North Lands (Sumter) light ship. The next heard of her was that she was in the Gulf of Martaban, about fifty miles south of Rangoon Burmah. She then seems to have crossed over the Bay of Bengal, swept around Cape Comorin, the southern extremity of India, and sailed up the western coast of that country; for we next hear of the capture of the bark Emma Jane on the 14th of January, off Ajanga, on the southwestern coast of India. This is the last positive information of her whereabouts, though it was generally supposed she would pursue her course up the coast and touch at Bombay, as the Times of India, (Bombay) of January 23, speaks of it as not at all unlikely. That journal urged the people to "show no favor to the privateers."

THE FLORIDA.—A letter from Brest to the London Herald says:

I regretted very much arriving in Brest a day too late to visit the C. S. ship of war Florida. The Florida is away again, and it may be useful to state that the crew consists of a few Irishmen, a great many Austrians, some Belgians, and quite a number of Italians. This is reliable. The officers, I was told, are fine fellows, and the crew are picked men, who will give a good account of any equal number of the Federals.

The European Times says:

The Confederate cruiser Florida has most effectually eluded her pursuers. The night she left was dark and stormy, the wind being S. E., and she took the Pass du Roy Channel, going between the Saints safely to sea. The last heard of the United States steamer Kearsage was four or five days previously, when she was spoken by a Brest pilot 40 miles S. West of that port.

LORD DERBY ON LORD RUSSELL.—The following is from Lord Derby's late speech on Lord John Russell's foreign policy:

The non-intervention policy of the noble earl may summed up in two words—middle and middle. (Laughter.) The whole course of the noble earl's correspondence—I don't care with what foreign power, great or small—has been lecturing, scolding, blistering and retreating. (Laughter.) I cannot look upon the foreign policy pursued by the noble earl and the present cabinet without being reminded of another very distinguished party of actors, commemorated, as your lordships will all recollect, in "Midsummer's Night's Dream,"—Bottom the weaver and Seng the joiner. (Laughter.) The noble earl appears to me to combine the qualities which are attributed to both these distinguished personages. (A laugh.) He is like Bottom the weaver—very ambitious to play every part, not excepting that which he has played, namely, Moonshine. Above all, the noble earl wishes to play the part of Lion. "Oh," says the noble lord, "let me have the roaring; I will roar so that it shall do a man's heart good." Then the noble earl knows as well as any one how to follow the example of Bottom by cooing as gently as any sucking dove. At times he can lift up the mask from half his face, and say, "I'm not the lion at all—I'm only Seng the joiner."

A GRAND ROW IN DUBLIN.—At an immense meeting at the Rotunda, Dublin on the evening of the 22d of February, by the O'Donohue and Mr. Sullivan, of the Nation, to protest against the erection of a statue to Prince Albert in College Green, the Fenian Brotherhood stormed the platform, routed the chairman and committee, and, after a desperate fight of fifteen minutes, remained masters of the ground, waving a flag and flourishing a naked sword. It is alleged that some of the combatants wore the American uniform. The excitement and tumult was terrific.

The country has been suffering with a disease called "Inflated Currency," when it recovers from that by withdrawal of the "old issue," we suppose it will take the Pneu monia!

AFFAIRS AT MOBILE.—General Gilmer passed through Macon Sunday last, from Mobile. He reports that Commodore Farragut has abandoned the bombardment of Fort Powell and left for parts unknown. Two thousand shells were discharged at the Fort without damage to the fortification, and with the loss of only one man killed and one slightly wounded. There would have been no loss of life on our side, but for imprudent self-exposure, contrary to orders. So ends another futile movement of the enemy. The Mobile papers report that the loss of the enemy must have been considerable, as seven were known to have been buried from one vessel. Truly the current of events runs prosperously for our cause.

The Macon Telegraph says General G. was in high spirits, and disposed to take the very brightest views in regard to the result and duration of the war.

AFFAIRS IN FLORIDA.—We have but little news of interest from Florida. It is reported that the enemy have landed only three regiments at Palatka, that they were fortifying the place, and had thrown out their pickets a few miles. The Fourth Georgia Cavalry were at Waldo, and the Fifth Georgia Cavalry at Camp Finnegan. Seven deserters from the Yankee troops at Jacksonville, reached our lines on Monday night, and were taken to Baldwin. They were from New York and Connecticut regiments, and expressed themselves disgusted with the war. They say that the Yankees expected to be forced to another battle before a month, and that they were determined to take no part in it, and therefore deserted. They report that the term of service of a large number of their troops will expire during the ensuing three months, and that no re-enlistments will take place.

ANOTHER ARRIVAL.—The steamer Hassa, with cargo for the State of North Carolina, has arrived at a Confederate port.

MARRIED.

At Camden, S. C., on the evening of the 15th inst., by the Rev. W. E. HUGHSON, Mr. JOHN S. HUGHSON, of Camden, to Miss LATTIE R. TURNER, eldest daughter of Capt. Shirley C. Turner of Charleston, S. C.

RAGS! RAGS!!

THE HIGHEST PRICES PAID FOR WHITE Linen or cotton rags, delivered in large or small quantities at this office.

TOWN ELECTION.

AN Election will be held at the Town Hall, on the first Monday in April next, for an Intendant and four Wardens for the Town of Camden to serve during the ensuing year.

The following gentlemen are appointed managers of the same: J. A. Young, J. S. Meroney and W. M. Billings.

By order of Council, ROBT. M. KENNEDY, Clerk. Camden, March 23, 1864.

BRANCH BANK STATE OF SO. CA.

Camden, S. C., March 21st 1864. THIS Bank having been appointed Depository under the Act to reduce the currency and to authorize a new issue of notes and bonds, the subscriber is prepared to issue certificates for four per cent. bonds, and at a future day will be prepared to exchange the new notes for the old issue. W. M. SHANNON, President. March 25 1864

NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!

THE People are notified that the Certificates for Tax in Kind, issued by me, are not tax receipts and they must be presented to James Jones, Tax collector, before the first of April.

J. H. DEVEREUX, A. A. C. S. March 25 1864

COTTON.

I AM authorized to sell a small parcel of Cotton, which will be kept till called for in a safe part of the country. W. E. JOHNSON, March 25 1864

BANK OF CAMDEN SO. CA.

PERSONS who intend to convert their Treasury notes into 4 per cent. Bonds, through the Bank of Camden, will do well to deposit, or leave to their credit, no fractions of \$100, because no Bonds will be issued with fractions of \$100. They had better take the fractions out of Bank, and use to best advantage, for after 1st April next, they will be paid in the present currency at par all such fractions. And let it be remembered no deposits will be received after the 12th, and some paid out after 19th inst.,—until after 1st April next. W. E. JOHNSON, President. March 11 1864

CONFEDERATE STATES DEPOSITORY.

CAMDEN, S. C., March 10th, 1864. I HAVE been appointed Depository, under the act of Congress, of the 17th February 1864, for funding Treasury Notes, and will be ready to proceed to business to-morrow, at my office in the Bank of Camden. Prompt action is recommended to those wishing certificates for their money, and securing a right to 4 per cent. Bonds, which are receivable in taxes for this year. Persons bringing money for deposit are expected to have the bills assorted according to denominations and counted in packages of \$100, \$200, \$500, &c. W. E. JOHNSON, C. S. Depository. March 11 1864

NOTICE.

ALL persons having claims against the Estate of James V. Lyles deceased, will please present the same to me duly attested, at as early a day as possible, and all persons indebted to said Estate will please make payment to me of their respective indebtedness at an early day, &c. MARY A. LYLES, Adm. March 18 1864